and secondary schools for local bodies. They are paying dearness allowance at the old rates. The question of allowing them to grant dearness allowance to their employees at the enhanced rates sanctioned for Government servants is under the consideration of Government.

" (*b*) The financial position of almost all the local bodies is unsatisfactory at present on account of the introduction of the revised scales of pay and the grant of dearness allowance.

" (*c*) & (*d*) To enable the local bodies to introduce the revised scale of pay for teachers in elementary schools, the Government have sanctioned the enhancement of the rate of education tax and have given advances wherever necessary. The Government are also giving subsidies wherever necessary towards the payment of dearness allowance.

Secondary schools.—To meet the extra cost involved in the introduction of the revised scale of pay for the staff in the secondary schools, the Government have sanctioned the payment of teaching grants on the basis of half the net cost of maintenance of these secondary schools in lieu of the fixed lump-sum subsidies paid hitherto. They have also sanctioned a grant on the same basis of half the net cost towards the expenditure incurred on payment of dearness allowance also. This has afforded the necessary financial relief with the result that the revised scales of pay have been adopted by all local bodies. The question of allowing the revised rates of dearness allowance is under consideration."

Curator of the Oriental Manuscripts Library.

* 91 *Q.*—Sri R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : With reference to answers to question No. 207 answered on the 18th December 1947, will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the rules relating to the appointment of the Curator of the Oriental Manuscripts Library have been amended and when it is proposed to give effect to the revised rules?

The Hon. Sri T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—

" Yes. The amendment of the rules came into force from 4th February 1948.

" The former incumbent of the post who had only a working knowledge of Sanskrit has already been transferred and another officer who possesses an M.A. degree in Sanskrit by the second class appointed as Curator "

Schemes regarding smoked fish and cured fish.

* 92 *Q.*—Sri N. SANKARA REDDI (on behalf of Sri K. Manathunainatha Desigar) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the reasons are for the failure of the schemes regarding smoked fish and cured fish ; and